

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-20 (Canceled).

Claim 21 (Currently Amended): A coordinate input-detecting apparatus including a touch panel to be touched by a pointer, said coordinate input-detecting apparatus comprising:

a substantially flat two-dimensional coordinate input-detecting area configured to receive insertion of the pointer, said substantially flat two-dimensional coordinate input-detecting area being formed in front of the touch panel and having a prescribed depth;

~~an optical unit configured to optically detect the pointer inserted into the coordinate input detecting area and to generate a detection signal based on the detection convert a light intensity distribution signal to digital data; and~~

~~a controller configured to calculate coordinates designated by the pointer in accordance with the detection signal detect the pointer inserted into the coordinate input-detecting area when the digital data detected by the optical unit exceeds a first threshold value;~~

~~wherein said optical unit recognizes insertion of the pointer when said detection signal exceeds a first predetermined threshold value, said detection allowing a coordinate calculation operation, and wherein said controller calculates the coordinates based on a detection signal exceeding a second threshold value, said second threshold value being changed in accordance with a distance between the pointer and the optical unit,~~

~~and wherein a lowest level of said second threshold value enables detection of the pointer at a farthest point from the optical unit wherein said controller calculates a distance between the optical unit and the pointer from the digital data, and sets a second threshold value higher than that of the first threshold in accordance with the distance calculated, and~~

wherein said controller calculates coordinates from the digital data when the digital data exceeds the second threshold value.

Claim 22 (Currently Amended): The coordinate input detecting apparatus of Claim 21, wherein the ~~detection signal~~ digital data exceeds the second threshold value when the pointer almost contacts the touch panel.

Claim 23 (Previously Presented): The coordinate input detecting apparatus of Claim 21, wherein said second threshold unit is determined in accordance with a distance between a point designated by the pointer and the optical unit.

Claim 24 (Previously Presented): The coordinate input detecting apparatus of Claim 22, wherein said second threshold unit is determined in accordance with a distance between a point designated by the pointer and the optical unit.

Claims 25-26 (Canceled).

Claim 27 (Previously Presented): The coordinate input detecting apparatus of Claim 21, wherein the optical unit includes at least first and second optical devices each having a light source and a light acceptance unit, wherein said second threshold value is set and used in comparing with detection signals generated by the first and second optical units.

Claim 28 (Previously Presented): The coordinate input detecting apparatus of Claim 22, wherein the optical unit includes at least first and second optical devices each having a

light source and a light acceptance unit, wherein said second threshold value is set and used in comparing with detection signals generated by the first and second optical units.

Claim 29 (Previously Presented): The coordinate input detecting apparatus of Claim 23, wherein the optical unit includes at least first and second optical devices each having a light source and a light acceptance unit, wherein said second threshold value is set and used in comparing with detection signals generated by the first and second optical units.

Claim 30 (Previously Presented): The coordinate input detecting apparatus of Claim 24, wherein the optical unit includes at least first and second optical devices each having a light source and a light acceptance unit, wherein said second threshold value is set and used in comparing with detection signals generated by the first and second optical units.

Claim 31 (Previously Presented): The coordinate input detecting apparatus of Claim 27, wherein said optical units include reflection mirrors each disposed on prescribed sides of the coordinate input-detecting area, said reflection mirrors having surfaces whose every portions return a light beam to the light source, said optical units being disposed at corners on the coordinate input detecting area, respectively.

Claim 32 (Previously Presented): The coordinate input detecting apparatus of Claim 28, wherein said optical units include reflection mirrors each disposed on prescribed sides of the coordinate input-detecting area, said reflection mirrors having surfaces whose every portions return a light beam to the light source, said optical units being disposed at corners on the coordinate input detecting area, respectively.

Claim 33 (Previously Presented): The coordinate input detecting apparatus of Claim 29, wherein said optical units include reflection mirrors each disposed on prescribed sides of the coordinate input-detecting area, said reflection mirrors having surfaces whose every portions return a light beam to the light source, said optical units being disposed at corners on the coordinate input detecting area, respectively.

Claim 34 (Previously Presented): The coordinate input detecting apparatus of Claim 30, wherein said optical units include reflection mirrors each disposed on prescribed sides of the coordinate input-detecting area, said reflection mirrors having surfaces whose every portions return a light beam to the light source, said optical units being disposed at corners on the coordinate input detecting area, respectively.

Claim 35 (Previously Presented): The coordinate input detecting apparatus of Claim 31, wherein said optical units further includes a probe light generating device configured to generate and swing and irradiate probe lights toward the reflection mirrors.

Claim 36 (Previously Presented): The coordinate input detecting apparatus of Claim 32, wherein said optical units further includes a probe light generating device configured to generate and swing and irradiate probe lights toward the reflection mirrors.

Claim 37 (Previously Presented): The coordinate input detecting apparatus of Claim 33, wherein said optical units further includes a probe light generating device configured to generate and swing and irradiate probe lights toward the reflection mirrors.

Claim 38 (Previously Presented): The coordinate input detecting apparatus of Claim 34, wherein said optical units further includes a probe light generating device configured to generate and swing and irradiate probe lights toward the reflection mirrors.

Claim 39 (Previously Presented): The coordinate input detecting apparatus of Claim 21, wherein said second threshold is decreased as a distance between the pointer and the optical unit is increased.